

Application No.: 09/986,468
Attorney Docket No.: 021123-0282431

REMARKS

I. Preliminary Remarks

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 7, 9, and 10 will be pending in this application.

II. Amendments to the Specification

The applicants have replaced the specification as originally filed with the substitute specification enclosed herewith. The substitute specification contains a marked-up version of the specification relative to the immediate prior version of the specification of record in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.125. The substitute specification does not include new matter.

The changes made by the substitute specification relative to the immediate prior version are indicated using the paragraph numbers of the marked-up specification and are as follows:

- 1) The paragraphs have been individually numbered using consecutive Arabic numerals.
- 2) The status of the applications in the priority information in paragraph [0002] has been updated.
- 3) The units used when reporting Silanol group density (V_2 = NaOH consumption), *i.e.*, the Sears number, has been changed from "ml" to "ml/(5 g)" in accordance with Example 13. As set forth in Example 13, it is possible to determine the silanol surface groups of silicas and silicates by a titration procedure which has been put forward by Sears. This procedure refers to 5 g test material. All the calculations performed in this application were performed in accordance with the Sears procedure set forth in Example 13. Accordingly, the units reporting the Sears value (V_2) and silanol group density have been changed to more accurately reflect the Sears procedure as described in Example 13. These changes may be seen in paragraphs [0011], [0013], [0015], [0045], [0048], [0050], [0053], the abstract, and claim 7.
- 4) The instrument used to determine the photon correlation spectroscopy has been listed in paragraph [0012].
- 5) The pressure range (7 bar to 2000 bar) set forth in paragraph [0012] has been clarified in the determination of pore volume by mercury porosimetry according to DIN 66 133, the instrument used for photon correlation spectroscopy. This is consistent with the reference information.

Application No.: 09/986,468

Attorney Docket No.: 021123-0282431

- 6) Paragraph [0014] explicitly sets forth other preferred ranges of V_2/V_1 . All values are present in the specification.
- 7) The formulas in paragraph [0018] have been rewritten to more clearly describe the formulas.
- 8) The Brief Description of the Drawings has been moved to follow the summary of the invention at paragraphs [0032] to [0037], in accordance with preferred U.S. patent practice.
- 9) The units for the Goodrich flexometer have been supplied in paragraph [0041] in accordance with ASTM D 623 A.
- 10) The DBP/CTAB ratio was corrected from 3.5 to 3.15. This calculation is supported by the DBP and CTAB values (236 divided by 75) in this same paragraph.
- 11) The description of the injection process in paragraph [0051] has been rewritten to more clearly describe the process.
- 12) The ultrasonic device and ultrasound time used in Example 6 is listed in paragraph [0055].
- 13) In paragraph [0057] and [0059], the term "MTS (DIN 53 513)" is replaced by "Loss tan δ according to DIN 53 513, device used: MTS" in order to more clearly explain the tan δ values. The tan δ values themselves are inherent to the silica and were inadvertently omitted in the text of the original specification.
- 14) The remaining changes involve the correction of typographical errors.

III. Amendments to the Claims

Claim 7 has been amended to correct the Sears values, as explained above.

IV. Conclusion

This application was filed as a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Application No. 08/870,591 to introduce Example 13, which explains how the Sears value is calculated. While the Sears values disclosed throughout the specification have been determined in accordance Example 13, the units used when describing the Sears values had mistakenly not been revised to reflect the units used in the Sears value calculation of Example 13 (ml/(5 g)). That is, since the Sears value calculations throughout the specification were based upon Example 13, the units must be corrected to accurately convey the calculated values.

Application No.: 09/986,468
Attorney Docket No.: 021123-0282431

Therefore, similar to the applicants submission of a substitute specification in co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 08/870,591, the applicants have filed this substitute specification to correct an obvious mistake, *i.e.*, to correct the units for those values. No calculations have been altered in the substitute specification; only the units have been changed to more accurately reflect how the calculations were determined. Accordingly, no new matter is believed to have been introduced. Should the examiner have any questions regarding this information, he is strongly urged to contact the undersigned at the number indicated.

In view of the foregoing, the claims are now believed to be in form for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited. If any point remains in issue that the examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the examiner is strongly urged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

By: 

Thomas A. Cawley, Jr., Ph.D.

Registration No.: 40,944

Direct Telephone No.: 703-905-2144

January 14, 2005
TAC/JNT

P.O. Box - 10500
McLean, VA 22102

General Telephone No.: 703-905-2000
General Facsimile No.: 703-905-2500